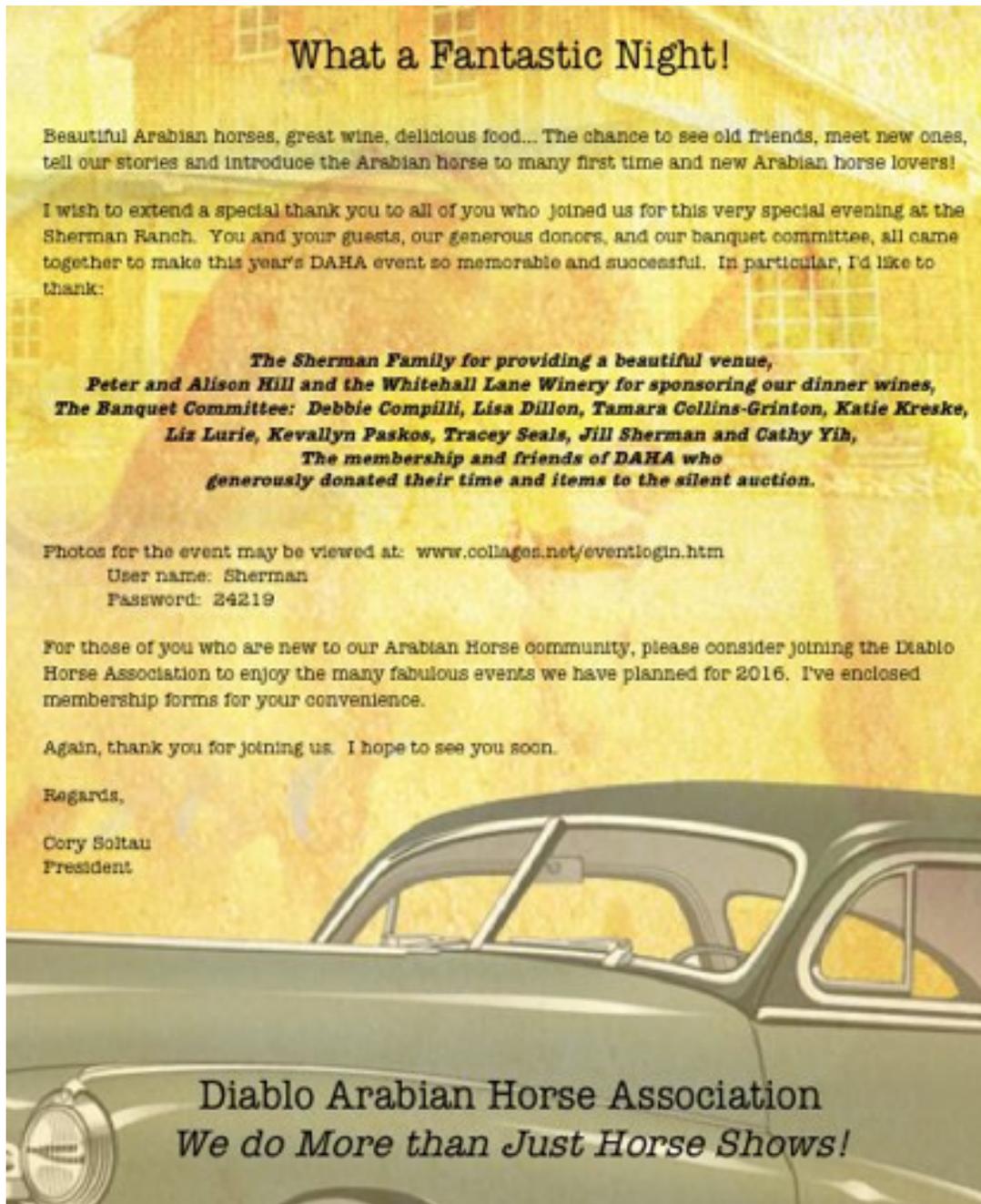


Flash!!! Premium Book for the Diablo AHA Spring Show is now available on the DAHA website

www.diabloaha.org

The President's Message:



Newsletter - At the Board of Directors meeting on March 1st. the need for regular contact with the membership was discussed. As you will note in the list of contacts on the last page, we need a volunteer to put together the news and get it sent out. We are thinking of every two months or, at least quarterly. The Editor

would receive and solicit news, format it, have it sent to the membership by email (or in some cases by US mail), and send it to be posted on our website. If you can help, please contact President Cory Soltau right away. Thanks.

Diablo Arabian Horse Association
Presents the
47th Annual Arabian & Half-Arabian Spring Horse Show
May 19 - 22, 2016
Brookside Equestrian Park,
Elk Grove, CA

Main Ring Judge – Isaac Taylor
English Pleasure Trail, Western Pleasure Trail &
Reining – Van Jacobsen
Dressage – TBA
Sport Horse in Hand (Open) & Sport Horse under Saddle – TBA
Sport Horse in Hand (ATH) & Western Dressage – Margo Hoagland

Theme - Your Favorite Tribute to Disney

\$1,100 - Costume Class & \$1,100 - Stall Decorating Contest

Free Pizza Party Thursday night
Progressive Barn Party Friday night
Spaghetti dinner Saturday night
Free Ice Cream Social Sunday afternoon

Premium list available online:

www.diabloaha.org

Contact: Coke Swift, Show Manager

209 464-1932 for a printed premium

Email: wilowjewelfarm@yahoo.com

Melanni Hershberger, Show Secretary

480 443-3372 Email: melannah@aol.com

Our annual meeting and awards banquet was held January 23rd at the beautiful Sherman Ranch.

Other DAHA events coming up include the following:

May 19-22 Annual Spring Show at Elk Grove- Premium list available on line.

Sept. 30-Oct. 2 DAHA Fall Fling Show at Elk Grove

Other events to be scheduled may include clinics, barn tours or parties, trail rides, etc.

If you have an idea of an activity you would like and can help with, let an officer or Board member know. You are welcome to attend a Board meeting with your ideas. Just let the Secretary know so we can get the discussion on the Agenda.

Board meetings are usually held on the first Tuesday of each month, but may be moved if there is a time conflict.

MEMBER HAPPENINGS-

Latest reports on some winners at Scottsdale-

From Tammy at Earthquake Arabians

Taylor Alyssa Lai - 2X Res. Champ. In Hunter Pleasure JOTR and Select 14 & under

Meghan Southall –Res. Champ. Hunter Pleasure Select 15-18

Allie Brooks – Top 10 Ten & under equitation

Kelly Saunders – Top 10 Ten & under

Angie Dubnoff – Top 10 Showmanship 15-18

Sophie Yih – Champ. Country Eng. Pleasure 14 & under

Peyton Bergstad – Top 10 “ “ “ “

From Leigha Perry:

Four Jr. riders from Diablo View Farms attended the 1st annual Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show. We couldn't be more proud of these young ladies!

Starting the show off well was **Cecily Sotomayor** with **Eicon BVA**, reining in a Top 10 in Purebred Arabian Geldings halter JTH 15 to 18.

Following suit was **Tea' Cavalli** with **Musicofthenite+/:** Hunter Pleasure JOTR 14 & under, Hunter Pleasure JTR Select Rider 14 & under, as well as Showmanship 14 & under.

Kelly Perymon also had a great first Scottsdale appearance with her horse **EQL Hallabalo**, placing 1st in Half Arabian Hunter Pleasure JTR Select Rider 14 & under, and brought home 3 Top 10 awards in Half Arabian Hunter Pleasure JOTR 14 & under, Hunter Pleasure JTR 14 & under and Hunter Pleasure JTR Select Rider 14 & under.

Jamie Seals and her horse **DA Betty Blowtorch+** did a great job, finishing up our trip bringing home a 1st place in Half Arabian Hunter Pleasure JOTR 14 & under, a 2nd place in Half Arabian English Show Hack JTR 14 & under, 3 Top 10s, as well as Res. Champ. in both the Half Arabian English Show Hack JTR 14 & under & Hunter Pleasure JTR & under. I think her favorite part was winning the Championship Roses for the Half Arabian Hunter Pleasure JOTR 14 & under.

Way to go girls!!!!!!!



A Year With a Race Horse

Evelyn Call

When four of us got together early in 2015 to buy an Arabian racing prospect, we had no idea of what we were getting into. Sure, Dorothy Burt, Cory Soltau, Betty Eaton (trainer Terri Eaton's mother), and I had been involved in Arabian racing before, Dorothy for about 30 years. It's great fun and in a partnership you can handle any expenses more easily. Dorothy and I were trying to sell the young gelding we had raced in 2014. He had shown us that he was not particularly interested in racing and needed another occupation. So when Terri found the 4 year old filly in Mississippi, for a reasonable price, and with a top racing pedigree, we went for it. Some of you probably already know that her name is **Dream Pearl**.

Pearl went into training at Terri's barn with a plan to start her career in June at the Alameda County Fair at Pleasanton. Pearl had been sick in 2014, so had not

raced as a 3yr. old. Within a couple of months she was in great shape and ready to race. A horse's first race is a nervous time for owners. How will she behave? Will she be fast enough to keep up? Will she be able to handle running in a bunch of other horses? Will she just stand in the gate and be left behind? And the big question- Is she going to be a race horse? To our surprise and delight, she did very well, winning by 6 lengths and setting a track record. It looked like she might be the one we were hoping for. After the race, Terri remarked that she had thought that if Pearl could get in front, no other horse in the race could catch her.

Of course, with each success it gets a bit harder, as Pearl would be running against tougher and tougher horses. She next went to Sacramento, where she won the State Fair Arabian Stakes, and this time by 2 lengths. So far, she had not been seriously challenged. Was she really good, or was it just the competition? A couple of weeks later she went to Santa Rosa for the Sonoma County Fair. The race was a little longer. The race was sponsored by the Wine Country Arabian Horse Assoc. Thanks to those folks for supporting Arabian racing. This time she won by 12 lengths. It was fun meeting our friends in that association in the winner's circle. What could be next?

Pearl's next race came a month later at Stockton. This time she would be running against male horses as well as females. This race would be the Wathba Stud Farm Cup, part of an international racing series in the Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed al Nahyan Festival. We would have been happy if she had just placed. Pearl had something else in mind. As the track announcer stated, on calling the finish, it "was a family affair." She beat her two brothers, winning by ¾ of a length. So Pearl was now 4 for 4. That had all of us somewhat stunned. You try over the years and enjoy some successes and just have fun. This was something else. Pearl, as inexperienced as she was, was moving up in the national standings and had her picture and an article in the Arabian Finish Line magazine.

On to Fresno. The Fresno Arabian Stakes would be a major test. Pearl would be the only female in the race. The field included nationally ranked male horses, 4 of them by her sire, Burning Sand. It was also her first try

at a mile long race. She did very well, coming in 3rd, behind two of her half-brothers. We were very pleased with her showing that she belonged in top company. But this left us with an important decision to make. The Fair season was over. The next possible race in California would not be until next Spring. So we decided she had earned the chance to go to Texas for the Shadwell Arabian Stallions Texas Distaff Stakes race at Lone Star Park in November. We headed to Texas to watch her run. Pearl handled the trip well. She's becoming a pro. Some of the top fillies and mares in the country would be coming to Texas.

Pearl ran hard and ended up 3rd. She came out of the race in good condition and returned home for a few months rest. As I write, she is back in training, aiming at a major race at Santa Anita on April 2, part of the Darley Awards activities. Pearl is one of three nominated nationally for the 2015 Darley Award for 4yr old fillies. This is a big deal for us local people. Maybe once in a lifetime.

Think about getting involved in Arabian racing. Find some friends, contact a trainer to find a horse for you and enjoy the trip. You won't always win, but you don't always win at horse shows either. At least there is a chance of covering expenses, and maybe making a profit, while you have fun. If you are interested, contact Cory Soltau, Dorothy Burt or me. We may be able to answer your questions or refer you on to trainers or others. EC

Update: On Feb 27th Dream Pearl was named 2015 California Champion 4 yr. old filly by the Arabian Racing Assoc. of California (ARAC).

In Memoriam

We are very saddened to report the loss on March 6th, 2016 of **Sheila Varian**, one of the best known and most influential persons in our Arabian horse community.

Those of us who have had contact with Sheila over the years were privileged. Her influence on Arabian breeding over the last 50 years cannot be underestimated. She was a superb horsewoman, and I can still remember her in a cutting class at the Cow Palace,

making amazing turns, with her horse's belly and her own feet almost scraping the ground.

Sheila was well known outside the Arabian horse world, having been inducted into the Cowgirl Hall of Fame in 2003. In 1961 Sheila won the Reined Cow Horse World Championships at the Cow Palace, competing against a field of top Quarter Horses, with the first Arabian to ever do so.



Sharing from: Melonie Kessler, Dressage Trainer (As written on Facebook)

As I take a moment to rest and reflect I wanted to reach out to all horse lovers on fb that aren't getting championship ribbons or 1st places this weekend.

At a recent show I judged, I ran into a young girl crying and very upset. I found the TD so I could ask the girl what was the matter.

She was so upset her horse was naughty earlier that day when I judged her. I listened to her between sobs of disappointment and embarrassment and then I gave her my perspective.

I told her horses are not about ribbons or championships. They are not put on this earth to feed our egos or empower us. I assured her that as a judge, I can tell she is a very competent rider with a very difficult situation. I commended her tactful handling of the problem he gave her. Now, she needs to try hard to find the root of his insecurities and help him be all he can become. This, I believe is the real reason we have these wonderful creatures.

So for you out there showing this weekend, remember it is not about the glory of the prize, but about the partnership with your wonderful friend.

Enjoy the shows, but enjoy your horse more.



For Show Premium lists, Membership forms, High Point program information, and other information, check out the DAHA website at www.diabloaha.org. The website is currently in the process of being updated, so please contact the committee Chair if you need information not shown.

Contacts: President- Cory Soltau –
bvarabians@aol.com
Vice Pres. & Director– Tammy Collins
earthquakearabians@yahoo.com
Past President – Jill Mitchell
Mitchell22566@sbcglobal.net
Secretary & Director Debbie Compilli
debbie@debbiecompilli.com
Director & Arabian Racing -Dorothy Burt
doro.burt@email.com
Director – Carrie Kellie
kelly1399@aol.com
Director & Youth -Leigha Perry
leigha.perry@yahoo.com
Director & High Point - Tracey Seals
traceyseals@hotmail.com
Treasurer – Meghan Skilling
meghan_mahoney@yahoo.com
Web Site – Stacy Smith
stacyasmith@me.com
Horse Shows - Coke Swift
willowjewelfarm@yahoo.com
Membership – Evelyn Call
evcallarabs@att.net

News Editor- ????????

Convention and Region 3 Delegates

Cory Soltau
Tammy Collins
Patricia Hendershot

